CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Department of Toxic Substances Control

MEDIA BACKGROUNDER

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CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL PRESENTS FORT ORD CLEANUP "AT A GLANCE"

The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) was the lead state agency involved in the ongoing environmental investigation and cleanup of the former Fort Ord Superfund site in Monterey. Here are some facts about the parts of the overall cleanup that have been completed and about the $100 million privatized early transfer celebrated today.

Acreage: This early transfer involves approximately 3,300 of the total 28,000-acre former Fort Ord. Previous property transfers and early transfers (the latter approved prior to all cleanup being complete):

Regular transfers to local entities – 6,823 acres

To the Bureau of Land Management for **open space/recreational use – 7,218 acres**

3 previous early transfers – 1,167 acres

Munitions and Explosives of Concern (MEC): Because of its history as a U.S. Army training base, one of the biggest challenges was in finding and dealing with bombs, bullets, artillery shells, and other potentially explosive devices.

12.9 million "anomalies" investigated (holes dug, mostly with hand tools, looking for munitions)

7,900 MEC items recovered (typically detonated in place because of instability)

Groundwater Contamination: Fort Ord's groundwater is contaminated with many of the typical chemicals involved in industrial use such as solvents. In some cases, the contamination came from leaking underground storage tanks.

400 groundwater wells drilled

Four groundwater treatment systems installed

Soil Contamination: Whether contaminated by chemicals, heavy metals, or MEC, the cleanup at Fort Ord entailed removing those soils.

43 sites cleaned up, including **300-plus underground storage tanks** removed

1.3 million cubic yards of soil removed (more than 63,000 truckloads)

400 truckloads of fractured bullets and slugs recycled for lead content